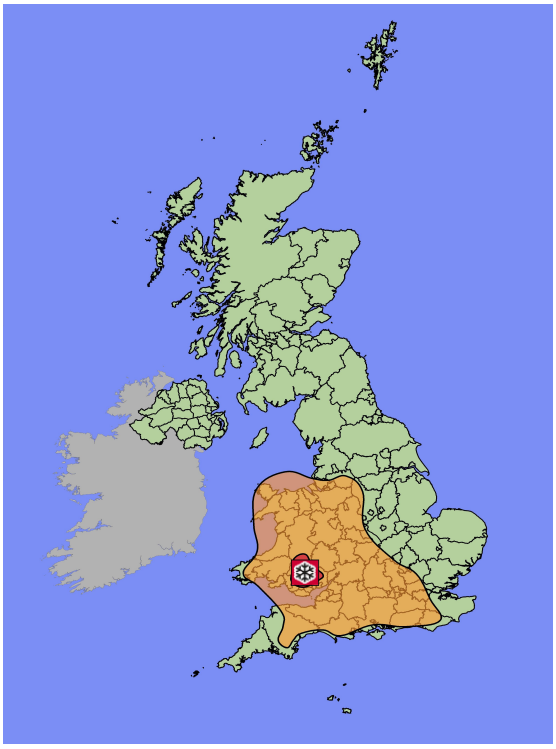
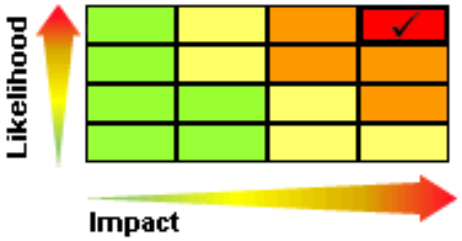
National Severe Weather Warning Service





Chief Forecasters Assessment
A frontal system is expected to move northeastwards across southern, western and central areas of the UK during Friday, with rain over the far west turning to snow in many areas as it is encounters much colder air inland. There remains some uncertainty as to how far northeast the frontal band will reach, but some large accumulations of snow are expected, along with strong southeasterly winds which will cause the snow to drift. Upland parts of south Wales are expected to be worst affected with heavy falls of snow and severe drifting, leading to widespread disruption.

The Met Office have issued a **Red Warning** of **Snow**

Valid from **03:00 on Fri, 18th Jan 2013** until **21:00 on Fri, 18th Jan 2013**

A band of snow, heavy in places, will spread northeastwards across Wales and the southwestern half of England, during Friday morning, lasting through the afternoon and evening across much of Wales, the Midlands, southern and parts of southeast England. Winds will strengthen, leading to drifting of lying snow.

Many parts of the Red Warning area are likely to have 20-30 cm of snow with strong southeasterly winds causing blizzards, severe drifting of lying snow and thus severe disruption. The public should avoid all non-essential journeys.

Elsewhere, accumulations of more than 5-10 cm of snow will occur quite widely, with 15 cm in some western parts of the Amber area, falling within 3-6 hours. The public should be prepared for disruption, including altering travel plans.

Please watch for updates to these warnings.

For more details please go to:
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/warnings

Issued by the Met Office at 11:23 on Wed, 16th Jan 2013

For enquiries regarding this warning please contact the Met Office Weather Desk
Phone: 0870 900 0100 Fax: 0870 900 5050 E-mail: enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk
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Updated by the Met Office at 12:30 on Thu, 17th Jan 2013

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For the following areas

- East Midlands
  - Derbyshire
  - Northamptonshire
- East of England
  - Central Bedfordshire
  - Hertfordshire
  - Luton
- London & South East England
  - Bracknell Forest
  - Brighton and Hove
  - Buckinghamshire
  - East Sussex
  - Greater London
  - Hampshire
  - Kent
  - Milton Keynes
  - Oxfordshire
  - Portsmouth
  - Reading
  - Slough
  - Southampton
  - Surrey
  - West Berkshire
  - West Sussex
  - Windsor and Maidenhead
  - Wokingham
- North West England
  - Cheshire East
  - Cheshire West and Chester
  - Greater Manchester
  - Halton
  - Merseyside
  - Warrington
- South West England
  - Bath and North East Somerset
  - Bournemouth
  - Bristol
  - Devon
  - Dorset
  - Gloucestershire
  - North Somerset
  - Poole
  - Somerset
  - South Gloucestershire
  - Swindon
  - Wiltshire
- Wales
  - Blaenau Gwent
  - Bridgend
  - Caerphilly
  - Cardiff
  - Carmarthenshire
  - Ceredigion
  - Conwy
  - Denbighshire
  - Flintshire
  - Gwynedd
  - Isle of Anglesey
  - Merthyr Tydfil
  - Monmouthshire
  - Neath Port Talbot
  - Newport
  - Pembrokeshire
  - Powys
  - Rhonnda Cynon Taff
  - Swansea
  - Torfaen
  - Vale of Glamorgan
  - Wrexham
- West Midlands
  - Herefordshire
  - Shropshire
  - Staffordshire
  - Stoke-on-Trent
  - Telford and Wrekin
  - Warwickshire
  - West Midlands Conurbation
  - Worcestershire

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